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(54) Title: DETECTION OF HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to *in vitro* methods of screening human subjects for the presence of human papillomavirus (HPV) which exhibits loss of regulation of E6/E7 mRNA expression and loss of replication and/or expression of a stabilized pre-mRNA encoding full length E6 protein. In particular, the invention provides *in vitro* methods of screening for persistent cell abnormalities or persistent CIN III lesions, cancer *in situ* or high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions (HSIL). The methods are useful in the context of cervical cancer screening.